PATENT 1403-0212P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

TAHARA, Narihiro et al

Appl. No.:

NEW

Group:

Filed:

July 13, 2001

Examiner:

For:

RUBBER COMPOSITION FOR TYRE TREAD

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

July 13, 2001

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

## In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) The rubber composition of Claim 1, wherein the inorganic powders are at least one kind of inorganic powders selected from the group consisting of clay, aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium silicate and mica.

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